

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment claims 1-4 and 6-9 will remain pending in the above identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

The amendments made herein to the claims do not incorporate new matter into the application as originally filed. In this regard, claim 5 is cancelled and claims 8-9 simply amended to correct a minor typographical error, wherein the word “the” was mistakenly repeated when originally drafting claims 8-9.

Accordingly, entry of the instant amendment is respectfully requested at present.

Claim Objection

Claims 8-9 have been objected to due to a minor typographical error, which is corrected in the instant amendment. As such, the claim objection is now rendered moot and withdrawal thereof is required at present.

Claim Rejections

Claim 5 has been rejected under the provisions of 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, based on an allegation of non-enablement, and claim 5 has also been rejected under the provisions of 35 USC § 103(b) based on an allegation of obviousness over US Patent 4,876,165 of Brewer et al. Reconsideration and withdraw of each of these separate rejections is respectfully requested based upon the cancellation of claim 5 in the present reply.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's courtesy in indicating that claims 1-4 and 6-7 are allowed, and that claims 8-9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection thereto. Based on the Examiner's comments and the amendment of claims 8-9 herein, it is submitted that each of the instantly pending claims 1-4 and 6-9 now stand in condition for allowance.

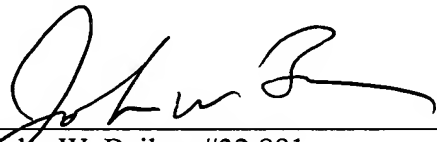
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Bailey (Reg. No. 32,881) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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